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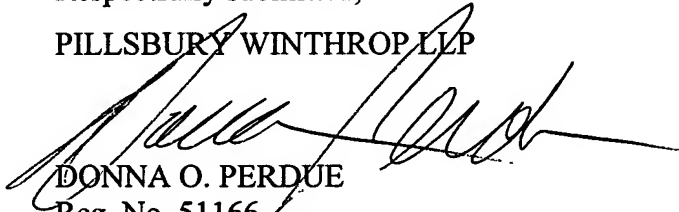
REMARKS

Claims 1-33 have been cancelled. New Claims 34-56 are presented in the present Preliminary Amendment. Applicants request that Claims 34-56 be entered and examined.

No fees are due for this Preliminary Amendment. If any fees are due, please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 502212. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8 and/or 1.10*

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I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee", Mailing Label No. EV 304112632 US, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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SACHIKO Y. SNEDDEN

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* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.